

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present paper, claims 1 and 6-8 will have been amended to clarify the recitation of the present invention without narrowing the scope thereof. Accordingly, claims 1-8 will remain pending in the present application.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection together with an indication of the allowability of all of the claims pending in the present application. Such action is now believed to be appropriate and proper and is thus respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicants wish to respectfully thank the Examiner for acknowledging their claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 as well as for confirming that the certified copy of the priority document, upon which the above noted claim for priority is based, has been received.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner confirm that the drawings filed in the present application are acceptable. Although the Examiner has not objected to the drawings in any manner, Applicants nevertheless would appreciate an explicit indication that the drawings filed in the present application on January 23, 2006 are acceptable.

Applicants additionally note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed in the present application on June 9, 2006. In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner indicated that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 9, 2006 did not include a PTO-1449 form.

However, no Information Disclosure Statement has been filed in present application on August 9, 2006. Moreover, the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the present application on June 9, 2006 in fact contained a PTO-1449 form. Accordingly, for the convenience of the

Examiner in charge of the present application, Applicants are submitting, attached hereto, a copy of the PTO-1499 form that was filed concurrently with the above noted Information Disclosure Statement.

In the outstanding Official Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kojima (U.S. Patent No. 6, 633, 293). Incidentally, Applicants note that the above noted Kojima document is not listed on the PTO-892 form attached to the outstanding Official Action in the present application, although a different patent to Kojima is listed on the PTO-892 form attached to the outstanding Official Action. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that in the next communication in the present application, the Examiner list the cited and applied Kojima patent on a PTO-892 form in order to ensure that the record in the present application is complete and accurate.

Applicants respectfully traverse the above noted rejection and submit that it is inappropriate with respect to the combinations of features recited in each of Applicants pending claims. In particular, Applicants respectfully submit that the disclosure of the Kojima patent cited by the Examiner is inadequate and insufficient to teach, disclose or render obvious the combination of features recited by each of Applicants' claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejection and request an indication of the allowability of all of the claims pending in the present application, in due course.

Applicants invention is directed to a moving picture creation apparatus that creates a moving picture from character strings as well as a moving picture creation method for creating moving pictures from character strings. Utilizing the moving picture creation apparatus as recited in claim 1 as a non-limiting example of Applicants invention, the moving picture creation apparatus includes a structure analysis section that receives a structured scenario description

including information related to objects and information relating to rendering and extracts information related to the objects and the rendering from the structured scenario description. A moving picture component search section extracts moving picture components corresponding to the extracted information related to the objects. A moving picture configuration section extracts a rendering setup corresponding to the extracted information related to the rendering, and creates a moving picture configuration description using the rendering setup extracted for the moving picture components corresponding to the information related to the objects.

The above noted combination of features, as recited in applicants claim 1 is not taught, disclosed or rendered obvious by the disclosure of Kojima as applied by the Examiner.

Kojima is directed to an image processing method and apparatus and a storage medium therefor. According to the teachings of Kojima, a plurality of presentation expressing data are produced by different directors according to one game scenario and are stored so as to correspond to progress data of the game scenario and identification data of the directors. When one of the directors is selected by a player, the corresponding presentation expressing data is read out by using the identification data of the selected director. Computer graphic (CG) images are produced based on the read out presentation expressing data and the images are displayed. If the game player selects another director during the progress of the game scenario, the corresponding presentation expressing data is read out so that CG images are produced based on the presentation expressing data of the newly selected different director and such images are displayed.

However, the structure and operation of Kojima is in stark contrast to the features of applicants' invention as recited in claim one which allows moving pictures to be created with effective rendering.

In particular, Kojima stores a plurality of presentation expressing data produced by different directors according to a game scenario so as to correspond to the progress data of the game scenario and identification data of the directors and produces CG images that embody movement of the characters and variation of the background based upon the read out presentation expressing data. Thus, Kojima merely discloses changing and reading CG image parameters (presentation expressing data) that are pre-stored in a CD-ROM 44 based on identification data of the selected director, which is read from director data storing section 214, and produces CG images based on the read presentation expressing data. However, Kojima does not disclose the combination of features defining Applicants' invention as recited e.g. pending in claim 1.

In setting forth the rejection, the Examiner asserted that the structure analysis section recited in Applicants' claim 1 corresponds to the image managing section 215 of Kojima. However, according to the Kojima disclosure, starting at col. 9, line 22, when the director is selected, the image managing section 215 reads out the corresponding presentation expressing data from the CD-ROM 44 in order to use the identification data of the selected director as key data and to produce game images for displaying on the display unit 25. In other words, Kojima merely discloses reading of the stored presentation expressing data corresponding to the selected director identification data and producing a CG image that provides character movement and background variations in accordance with the read presentation expressing data.

Kojima however clearly fails to disclose a structure analysis section that receives a "structured scenario description including information related to objects and information related to rendering". Kojima additionally does not disclose extracting "the information related to the objects and information related to the rendering from the structured scenario description" as recited in Applicants claim 1.

Additionally, in setting forth the rejection, the Examiner asserted that the moving picture component search section corresponds to the scenario managing section 211 of Kojima. However, as set forth in the paragraph bridging columns 7 and 8 of Kojima, the scenario managing section 211 monitors time elements after the start of the game and the state of execution of the game program so as to manage the progressing state of the game scenario. Nevertheless, the scenario managing section 211 of Kojima does not extract moving picture components corresponding to the extracted information related to the objects, as recited in claim 1.

Yet further, in setting forth the rejection, the Examiner asserted that the moving picture configuration section recited in Applicants' claim 1 is taught or disclosed by Kojima, col. 7, lines 34 through 60. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's characterization of the above noted portion of the Kojima disclosure with respect to the recited movie picture configuration section is inaccurate.

In particular, this portion of the Kojima disclosure deals with storing intermediate or final game result data on a memory card 53, the various input/output ports and connection of peripheral devices via such ports, the initialization of the whole apparatus and the execution of the game program. However, Kojima does not disclose extracting a rendering setup corresponding to the extracted information related to rendering and creating a moving picture configuration description using the rendering setup extracted for the moving picture components corresponding to the information related to the objects, as recited in applicants claim 1.

As result of the features recited in applicants claim 1, the moving picture creation apparatus can create moving pictures to or for which various renderings are produced, utilizing the moving picture configuration description. As a result of the features recited in Applicants'

claims, beneficial results are obtained, as noted above. Since the combination of features recited in Applicants claims are not disclosed or achieved by Kojima, the advantageous results of Applicants invention are not provided by Kojima.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection, together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested that is now believe to be appropriate and proper.

Claims 2-7 depend from shown to be allowable claim 1 and are thus patentable both based upon their own recitations as well as based on the recitations of claim 1, from which they depend. Claim 8 defines Applicants' invention in terms of a moving picture creation method. However, a manner generally similar to that set forth with respect to the features of claim 1, Kojima does not contain a disclosure that is adequate or sufficient to render unpatentable the features recited in Applicants' claim 8. Accordingly, claim 8 is also submitted to be patentable over the Kojima reference asserted by the Examiner.

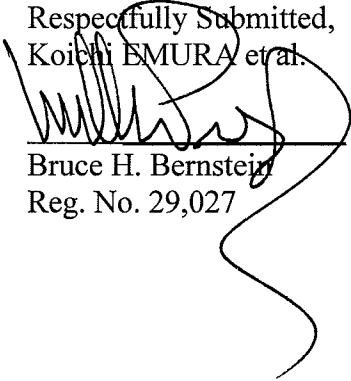
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so. Applicants have amended the claims to enhance clarity without narrowing the scope of the claims. Applicants have additionally discussed the disclosure of the reference relied upon by the Examiner and pointed out the shortcomings thereof with respect to Applicants' invention. Additionally, Applicants have described the recitations of Applicants' claims and with respect to such recitations, have noted the deficiencies of the reference applied thereagainst. Accordingly, Applicants have provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all the claims in the present application and respectfully request indication to such effect, in due course.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this Response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
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